



**Board of Physical Therapy
Meeting Minutes
August 18, 2020 – 10:00a.m.
Teleconference Attendance**

On August 18, 2020, the Board of Physical Therapy met via teleconference. Login information was published with the agenda on the DOH website and through GovDelivery.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Renee Compton, PTA, Chair
Andrew Wodka, PT, DPT, Vice Chair
Chrisandra Osborne, PT, DPT
Kathryn Dale, PT
Dana Johnson, Public Member
Jennifer Aglubat, PT, DPT

STAFF PRESENT

Renee Fullerton, Executive Director
Kris Waidely, Program Manager
Davis Hylkema, Program Associate
Michelle Hartman, Administrative Assistant 3
Lilia Lopez, AAG
Bill Kellington, Supervising Staff Attorney
Kevin Robbins, Credentialing Supervisor
Linda Ridgeway, DOH Finance Operations Manager
Martin Pittioni, Director of Office of Health Professions

GUESTS PRESENT:

Jackie Barry, Executive Director, PTWA
Robert Boyles
Cheri Eisen, PT
Lauren Farron, PTA

Lori Grassi, Lobbyist, Washington State
Chiropractic Association
Melissa Johnson, Lobbyist, PTWA
Robert Nicoloff, Executive Director,
Chiropractic Quality Assurance Commission

OPEN SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

Renee Compton, PTA, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

- 1.1. Introductions – The board, staff, and guests introduced themselves.
- 1.2. Approval of Agenda – The August 18, 2020 agenda was approved as presented.
- 1.3. Approval of Meeting Minutes – The June 15, 2020 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

2. BUDGET UPDATE

Lynda Ridgeway, Finance and Operations Manager, presented information regarding the budget. Ms. Ridgeway gave an update on the PT budget, which is in the process of being finalized for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. Due to Covid-19, all active licenses scheduled to expire were

issued an extension through September 30, 2020. As a result, the revenue is down about 3% from last quarter. After adjusting for the delayed revenue, the program still appears to be operating at an annual deficit. However, due to the Governor's directive of a hiring freeze, reduced spending, travel restrictions, and implementing furlough days, these reductions will result in some savings for the PT program.

Ms. Ridgeway and Mr. Pittioni gave an update on HELMS, the new software that will replace the current licensure program, ILERS. Contract negotiations with the vendor are in process, and work is planned to begin in the fall of 2020 and be completed in 2023. The cost of the project is allocated across the professions by the number of licensees and is currently estimated to be thirteen dollars per licensee per year. The funds will be drawn from the program's reserves each year over four years.

3. CREDENTIALING UPDATE

Kevin Robbins, Credentialing Supervisor, provided statistical data reporting that as of August 10, 2020, there were over 7,323 active licensed physical therapists (PTs) and 2,373 active licensed physical therapist assistants (PTAs). The count of those pending licensure is 260 for PTs and 89 for PTAs. The average time for processing PT/PTA applications is up from the previous report of four and one half (4.5) days.

Ms. Fullerton advised the board that notifications are being sent out via GovDelivery to those whose licenses are expired, or about to. The challenge is defining those who are expired and took advantage of the extension, vs. those who have chosen not to renew. Ms. Fullerton is looking into the ability to pull such a report once HELMS is in place.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

The board discussed correspondence they received from a foreign educated applicant regarding the TOEFL exam, and how the scoring process is in the state of Washington. The board agreed that there is not enough information to take action on this correspondence. The board asked Ms. Fullerton and Ms. Waidely to contact FCCPT or TOEFL to see if others are having the same type of issues. Ms. Lopez noted that the inquiry was likely a petition for rulemaking. The board asked Ms. Waidely to contact the DOH rulemaking coordinator about department policy regarding petitions for rulemaking.

5. BOARD NEWSLETTER

The board discussed topics for the next newsletter. The following will be presented at the next board meeting on October 5, 2020: Ms. Dale will an update on Covid-19, Ms. Compton will give an update on nametags, and Mr. Wodka will give an update on Mandatory Reporting.

6. APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL TO RECEIVE LISTS/LABELS

The board reviewed one application received from PT Entrepreneur seeking approval as an educational organization.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve PT Entrepreneur as an Educational Association to receive lists and labels of physical therapists and physical therapist assistants. The motion passed.

7. 2021 MEETING DATES

MOTION: A motion was made to accept the 2021 meeting dates presented. February 21, April 5, June 7, August 2, October 4, and December 13. The board also selected September 17 & 18th, 2021 as their annual retreat. Location TBD. The motion passed.

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The board accepted nominations to elect officers for the 2021 calendar year.

MOTION: A motion was made to elect Katie Dale as Chair and re-elect Andy Wodka as Vice Chair. The motion passed.

9. FEDERATION OF STATE BOARDS OF PHYSICAL THERAPY (FSBPT) UPDATES

9.1 PT Compact Updates/Issues

Dr. Wodka will be the Washington State Representative for the PT compact annual meeting, being held virtually, on October 25, 2020. There are currently 20 states that are actively issuing compacts and 8 more that are enacting legislation. There will soon be 28 states issuing compact privileges, making it more than half the country. Dr. Wodka has also been asked to speak about the PT compact at the OT Board meeting on October 23, 2020.

Ms. Waidely discussed an issue regarding a few PT's who have tried to bill Labor & Industry (L&I). L&I relies on the department's database to verify credentials. Since compact privileges are not currently being entered into the department's database that L&I relies on, they are not recognizing the compact privilege as a credential. The credentialing office is working on getting the compact privilege information into the database for L&I to be able to access. Ms. Barry, Executive Director, PTWA, will pass the information on to their payment committee to see if they are aware of the issue.

9.2 PT Compact and endorsements (spinal manipulation, sharp debridement, and EMG)

Per Ms. Waidely, no endorsements have been issued to date. Ms. Lopez reviewed the current law and asked for feedback from the board regarding intent to cover this type of endorsement for a privilege holder. The board's understanding was that the compact privilege was equivalent to a state license. They asked Ms. Lopez to finalize review of whether that included endorsements.

9.3 Board Assessment Resource

The board decided the best way to work through the Board Assessment Resource questions is to break them into small sections and complete each topic at different times. The first section, 'Planning,' will be added to the October 5, 2020 meeting agenda.

9.4 FSBPT Virtual 2020 Membership Meetings

Ms. Waidely advised the board that there are no fees for registration to attend or participate in the virtual meetings. Dr. Wodka, delegate, and Dr. Aglubat, alternate delegate, both plan on attending the virtual meetings.

9.5 Leadership Issues Forum – Report from board member, Dr. Jennifer Aglubat.

On July 22, 2020, Dr. Aglubat attended the Leadership Issues Forum virtually as an alternate delegate and provided a summary to the board.

10. NEW SPINAL MANIPULATION ENDORSEMENT LAW

Staff provided an update regarding the question sent to the Physical Therapy GovDelivery list, about the new changes to the clinical supervisor requirements for spinal manipulation endorsements. According to the responses received, there are currently no known issues or concerns due to the new requirement.

11. PROGRAM REPORT

11.1 Rules Update

Ms. Waidely informed the board that the PT compact rules are finalized. The compact rules have proposed amendments and if they are passed, the board will need to file rules to adopt the new changes. Another rule package, the CR-105 to expedite the repeal of the HIV/AIDS rules for PTs and PTAs is in the process of going through review within the department before it can be filed. Next, the repeal of spinal manipulation laws, which became outdated June 30 has been sent out for public comment and if no comments are received by August 31, 2020, then the CR-103 will be filed. Lastly, the CR-101, to open the continuing competency rules is in the process of being reviewed by the department and agency rules staff.

11.2 Board Member Recruitment update

Ms. Waidely announced that all the interviews are complete. Paperwork will be routing through the review process and then sent to the Governor's office.

11.3 Planning for upcoming meetings

Things to discuss for upcoming meetings: Newsletter, potential rules, and the section of the Board Assessment Resource tool.

11.4 Other

Ms. Waidely advised the board that the mandatory Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) training must be completed by all board members, every four years. The board agreed to do the training on-line, individually by the time of the next board meeting.

12. CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed under the consent agenda (informational items) are considered routine matters and are approved without discussion upon approval of the agenda. If separate discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and placed on the regular business agenda for discussion.

12.1 CBT Comment Summary and Candidate Satisfaction Survey Report

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 P.M.

Kris Waidely, Program Manager
Board of Physical Therapy

Renee Compton, PTA, Chair
Board of Physical Therapy